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March 22, 2002

Initial Patent Examination Division
Customer Service Center
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/027,086
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING
A HAZARD-FREE MULTI-BIT COMPARISON
Inventor: Thomas L. Meneghini
Filed: December 20, 2001
Attorney Docket No.: SMQ-069/P5858

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Response to the Notice To File Corrected Application Papers (2pgs);
2. Copy of the Notice To File Corrected Application Papers (1pg);
3. Substitute Drawings (Figures 1-7)(7pgs); and
4. Return postcard.

No fees are believed due at this time. However please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080. The undersigned requests any extensions of time necessary to respond. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Initial Patent Examination Division, Customer Service Center, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

March 22, 2002

Date _____

David R. Burns
David R. Burns, Reg. No. 46,590

Respectfully submitted,

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

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Reg. No. 46,590
Attorney for Applicant



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Thomas L. Meneghini

Serial No.: 10/027,086

Filed: December 20, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PERFORMING A HAZARD-FREE MULTI-BIT
COMPARISON

Attorney Docket No.: SMQ-069/P5858

Group Art Unit: 2819

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Initial Patent Examination Division
Customer Service Center
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Initial Patent Examination Division, Customer Service Center, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below.

March 22, 2002

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

David R. Burns

David R. Burns

Reg. No. 46,590

Attorney for Applicant

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Dear Sir:

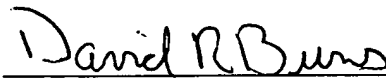
In response to the Notice To File Corrected Application Papers dated January 28, 2002, in connection with the above-referenced patent application, we enclose for filing in the above-referenced patent application 7 sheets of formal drawings (Figs. 1-7). Kindly substitute the enclosed formal drawings for the 7 sheets of drawings (Figs. 1-7) presently on file. Also enclosed is a copy of the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers.

Please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit
Account No. 12-0080.

The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the telephone number below if
there are any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP.



David R. Burns
Registration No. 46,590
Attorney for Applicant

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Date: March 22, 2002

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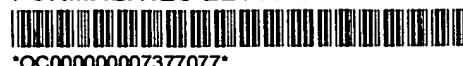
APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/027,086	12/20/2001	Thomas L. Meneghini	SMQ-069/P5858

000959
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CONFIRMATION NO. 9697

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000007377077

Date Mailed: 01/28/2002

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

This application has been accorded an Application Number and Filing Date. The application, however, is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because:
 - drawing sheets do not have the appropriate margin(s) (see 37 CFR 1.84(g)). Each sheet must include a top margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a left side margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a right side margin of at least 1.5 cm. (5/8 inch), and a bottom margin of at least 1.0 cm. (3/8 inch);

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

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Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE